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(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

David Sidransky

Application No.: National Phase of US05/08849

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: NEOPLASIA DIAGNOSTIC

COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS OF USE

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 12 of this paper.